(e) As per information furnished by the Registries of the Supreme Court and the High Courts, the position has been indicated in Statement-IV, attached herewith [*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 64].

(f) The steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency in Courts have been indicated in Statement-V attached herewith. [*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 65].

Import of Electronic Exchange

1647. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pressure is being mounted on the Department of Electronics to clear the import of the electronic exchange of 33,200 lines from Japan when the Department earlier has already turned down the request to import these exchanges;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) what is the number of licences issued to import or to manufacture the small exchange in India basides Indian Telephone Industries and Electronic Companies; and

(d) by when the small exchanges are likely to be ready for delivery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Proposal had been received by the Department of Electronics for clearance of import of 33,200 lines of small exchange equipment from Japan. Import clearance proposals are examined on merits taking into account the indigenous development, manufacturing capabilities and the users' requirements. Government has not so far given clearance for import.

(c) Besides Indian Telephone Industries (ITI), letters of intent for manufacture of Rural Automatic Exchanges (Small exchanges) have been issued to 14 State Corporations for a total of 7.1 lakh lines.

(d) The small exchanges will be ready for delivery during the course of 1988.

Formulation of a package of Economic Measures

1648. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a package of measures to revamp the Planning Commission, eliminate the programmes having adverse effect on long term goals and to do away with middlemen to ensure that subsidies and concessions given under the 20 Point and poverty alleviation programmes reach the people whom they are intended to benefit; and

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken in this regard and the action taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b) Government has been strengthening the Planning Commission so as to improve its capabilities for undertaking long term futuristic and innovative planning exercises. Evaluation and review of the programmes and policies of the Government with the objective of improving their implemnetation is a continuous process so that the achievement of long term goals can be optimised and ensured. Implementation of 20-Point and poverty-alleviation Programmes is being continually monitoried to ensure that the benefits reach the target group.